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AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL
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МЕЖДУНАРОДНАЯ АМНИСТИЯ
منظمة العفو الدولية
國際特赦組織

URGENT ACTION

PUBLIC **AI Index: ASA 21/102/98**

UA 299/98 **Fear for safety / Arbitrary arrests / Unlawful killings** **20 November 1998**

EAST TIMOR **Etelvina, [f]**
Atina, [f]

Possible others arrested

Vicente de Andrade, [m], head of Taitudak village (believed to be killed)

Amnesty International is concerned for the safety of the two above-named women, and possibly other East Timorese from the District of Same, who have allegedly been taken into custody by the Indonesian Armed Forces (ABRI) at the District Military Headquarters in Same.

The arrests follow an attack by the East Timorese National Liberation Army (Falintil) on a Military post in the sub-district of Alas, district of Same, in which three members of ABRI were believed to have been killed and 13 taken captive. An earlier theft of rifles had occurred at the same base.

This has led to recent human rights violations by ABRI in the district, resulting in a reportedly unknown number of extra-judicial executions and arrests. The burning down of homes and the severation of water and transport routes into the district are also alleged to have taken place.

Human rights monitors are also being denied access to the area, heightening the risk of further human rights violations.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Despite a more open political climate in East Timor following the coming to power of President Habibie in May 1998, serious human rights violations, including arbitrary arrests, incommunicado detention, "disappearances" and unlawful killings, by ABRI, in the context of operations against East Timorese resistance, continues. Restrictions on access to the territory for human rights observers also remain.

Recently-leaked military documents indicate that, despite the Indonesian Government's claims of a reduction in troop numbers in East Timor, the total number, including paramilitary units, is around 21,600.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/faxes/express/airmail letters in Bahasa Indonesia or English or your own language:
- requesting the authorities in Indonesia to investigate allegations of extrajudicial executions in Alas by the Indonesian Armed Forces;
- urging the government to clarify the number of individuals recently taken into custody and any charges brought against them;
- asking for assurances that they are not at risk of torture or ill-treatment;
- asking that those detained be given immediate, on-going and regular access to independent human rights lawyers;
- requesting that access be given for human rights monitors to the District of Same.

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APPEALS TO:

Commander Resort Military Command (KOREM) 164/Wiradharma (covers East Timor)
Colonel Tono Suratman
Markas KOREM 164/Wiradharma
Dili
East Timor
Indonesia
Telegrams: **Colonel Suratman, East Timor, Indonesia**
Faxes: **+ 62 390 21 624**
Salutation: **Dear Colonel Suratman**

COPIES TO:

Minister Of Defence And Security
Gen. Wiranto
Menteri Pertahanan dan Keamanan
Jl. Medan Merdeka Barat No.13-14
Jakarta 10110
Indonesia
Faxes: **+ 62 21 381 4535.**

Minister Of Foreign Affairs
Ali Alatas S.H.
Menteri Luar Negeri
Jl. Medan Taman Pejambon No.6
Jakarta
Indonesia
Faxes: **+ 62 21 380 5511/ 345 7782/ 360 541/ 724 5354**

and to diplomatic representatives of Indonesia accredited to your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 1 January 1999.